KEY NOTE ADDRESS DELIVERED BY ALH. SIKIRU OLADEPO BALOGUN (fcipsmn) PRESIDENT CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF PURCHASING AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT, NIGERIA ON THE OCASSION OF APRIL 2025 ‘BATCH A’ MANDATORY TRAINING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME.

The Vice President,

The Registrar,

Fellow Members,

The Chartered Members,

Members of The Press,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Participant of our professional Development Training Programme;

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I welcome all to this auspicious occasion being the 1st Mandatory programme of our Institute in the year 2025. This programme is to horn our skills, expanding our knowledge and embracing the opportunity that lies ahead.

Over the course of this programme our facilitators shall delve into the topic: ‘Sustainable Procurement and Supply Chain Management in Nigeria’ which is the necessary route towards achieving efficient management of resources in public and private sector organizations. Its impact on African Continental Free Trade Act is also to be analyzed.

You are all enjoyed to participate in the programme attentively to acquire knowledge, you shall have interactive sessions, workshops and networking opportunities. Beyond the acquisition of knowledge, this programme represents an opportunity for personal and professional growth. It is a chance to challenge ourselves to step outside our comfort zone, and to unlock our full potential. The topic here today is an opportunity for us to rejig and expand our knowledge, be conversant with the Resource efficiency and Cost Savings, impact on Resource Management etc.

Sustainable Procurement and Supply Chain Management are vital for efficient resource management in Nigeria, fostering economic growth and environmental responsibility. By integrating sustainability into procurement practices both public and private sector organization can improve resource utilization, reduce waste, lower costs while also contributing to the nation’s overall sustainability goals. Furthermore, the adoption of sustainable practices can boost Nigeria’s competitiveness in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA), allowing it to leverage trade opportunities while upholding sustainable development principles.

1. Resource Efficiency and Cost Savings:

Efficient Resource Management

Sustainable procurement focuses on minimizing waste and maximizing the life cycle of goods and services, leading to more efficient use of resources.

Cost Reduction

By optimizing supply chains and reducing waste, organizations can realize significant cost savings, enhancing their financial performance.

Improved Productivity

Efficient resource management contributes to increased productivity and operational effectiveness ultimately briefing the organization bottom line.

1. Impact on Resource Management:

Public Sector:

Sustainable procurement in the public sector can lead to more effective use of tax payers’ money by prioritizing long term value and reducing waste. This can also promote local business, create jobs and boosting the economy.

Private Sector:

Sustainable supply chain management in the private sector can lead to cost savings improved operational efficiency, and enhanced brand reputation. It can also help business stay competitive in the global market by meeting the increased demand for sustainable products and services.

IMPACT ON THE AFRICAN CONTINENTAL FREE TRADE ACT (AfCTA)

Increased Trade and Investment:

Sustainable procurement practices can create a more favorite environment for trade and investment by promoting responsible sourcing and reducing trade barriers.

Improved Competitiveness:

By adopting sustainable practices; Nigeria businesses can improve their competitiveness within the AfCTA by meeting the growing demand for sustainable products and services.

Regional Integration:

Sustainable procurement can foster regional integration between business across the African Continent leading to more efficient and sustainable supply chains.

KEY STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT IN NIGERIA

Government Initiatives:

The Nigeria government should review its Procurement Act to incorporate sustainability criteria, foster training for procurement professionals through the Chartered Institute of Purchasing and Supply Chain Management, and encourage interdisciplinary collaboration between various levels of government.

Corporate Responsibility:

Private business should integrate sustainability into their core business practices, including supplier selection, production process and waste management.

Public Awareness

Raising awareness about the importance of sustainable procurement and supply chain management is crucial for driving change and ensuring that all stakeholders are engaged in the process.

Technological Innovations

Utilizing technology such as blockchains and AI can help improve transparency and traceability in supply chains enabling businesses to better monitor their environmental and social impacts.

Collaboration, Innovation and Partnership

Encouraging collaboration between public and private sector stakeholders, as well as international organizations, can help build a more resilient and sustainable supply chain ecosystem.

Our professional learning, enables us move from the old skill for efficient resource management in Nigeria foreseeing economic growth and environment responsibility. The importance and benefit of integrating sustainability into procurement practices both in the public and private sector organization which shall improve resources utilization, reduce waste, lower costs which as this period of economic recession in our country is absolutely necessary.

My co-Fellows, Chartered members, graduate members we should remember that Mandatory Development Training Programme is a must for every-one to attend every year. For those of you in this year programme, I encourage each and everyone of us to approach this programme with an open mind and a willingness to engage fully. Embrace the challenges, ask questions and actively participate in discussions, your contributions are invaluable, and they will enrich not only your own learning experience but also that of your fellow participants.

As we embark on this journey together, let remember that our commitment to professional development extend far beyond the confines of this training programme. It is a lifelong journey – a journey of curiosity, resilience and of continuous growth.

Let us seize this opportunity with enthusiasm and determination. Let us embrace the challenges, celebrate our success, and one another along the way. Together we chart a course towards excellence and together, we will redefine the boundaries of what is possible in our respective fields. Let’s us stand together and talk in one voice that this profession is not all-comers profession, quacks should be flush out. Every procurer should support the present regime of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu hope for renew agenda and reduce poverty, endemic corruption in the contract of awards, enhance value for money in the purchase of goods and services in our nation. Be conversant with the on-goings in the nation and be part of the train that shall change the nation for the upcoming generation.

Thank you for your dedication, your passion and your commitment to excellence. Let us embark on this journey together, with optimism, with determination, and with a shared sense of purpose. Wishing a successful and enriching Professional Development Training Programme.

Sikiru Oladepo Balogun(fcipsmn)

President